

Hello, my name is Austin Van Zant, and I am writing to ask that you not further consolidate the media. Currently, eight corporations own the media on a nationwide scale. Eight. This does not foster diversity nor does it cater to the local level. Diversity and localism are two characteristics of the media that I have seen diminish over the past few years. Their absence reduces the quality of news programs and television shows. Clear Channel Communications is an excellent example of the shortcomings of merging the media. They have the same morning show in different parts of the country ("Turn the Knob to Bob") and have national call-in contests. They overlook the important events in the community to cover what they are told to cover. By further consolidating the media, problems like this will not go away; they will only become worse. Executives at the top will only become richer while feeding the rest of the nation with garbage. I beg you, please do not let this happen.